(b) Government are alert tb all development that have a bearing on India's security and will take necessary steps to counter any threat. .

Acquiring of Frigates by Pakistan from West Germany

.1600. SHRJMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported move of Pakistan to acquire frigates from West Germany; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government are aware of reports to this effect.

(<b) Government are keeping a constant watch on all such developments which have a bearing on the country's security.

Import of **life** saving essential equipment

1601. SHRIMATl KRISHNA KAUL Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to import life saving essential equh> ment no less than five Government agencies have to be approached for a permit;

(b) whether Government propose to change the procedure ar*d have one window where permits can be obtained; and.

(c) if so, when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) Most of the life-saving equipments are allowed for import under Open General Licence i.e. without an import licence *vide* List 2 of Appendix 6 of the Import-Export Policy for the period April 1985—March. 1988 and as per Item 33 of Appendix 6 of the Policy, these life-saving equipments and their spares can be imported by all persons (under OGL). However, equipments not covered by OGL provisions can be imported on *ad hoc* licence and applications for such licences are considered by the office of CCI&E and decided expeditiously provided they are recommended by Director of Medical services/Medical educations of the concerned State.

Merging of Northern areas of Pakistan with Pak-occupied Kashmir

1602. SHRIMATH KRISHNA KAUL:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BDRLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reported Pak move to merge its northern areas with Pak-occupied Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b> Government are aware of efforts in Pakistan to alter the status of territories forming a part of Pak.-oecupied Kashmir.

We have repeatedly conveyed to Pakistan tha it has no *locus standi* in POK which is an integral part of India and that the only issue which remains to be.resolved is the vacation of Indian territory under Pakistan's illegal occupation.

Setting up of a restaurant in **London** by **ITDC**

1603. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD; Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state: